

**JOINT STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT TO BRAZIL BY THE
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF NORWAY, ANNIKEN HUITFELDT**

Brasilia, October 10, 2023

1. Today, October 10, the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Maria Laura da Rocha, hosted the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Anniken Huitfeldt (hereafter, “the Ministers”), at the Itamaraty Palace, in Brasilia. This is the first visit by a Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs to Brazil since 2014.
2. Minister Huitfeldt’s visit followed up on the discussions initiated during a meeting between President Lula and Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre held on September 19, on the sidelines of the 78th United Nations General Assembly, in New York, where the two leaders agreed to collaborate on matters related to the next G20 Summit (2024) as well as COP30 (2025), both to be hosted by Brazil.
3. During the meeting, the Ministers emphasized the high priority attached by the two governments to Brazil-Norway bilateral relations, welcoming the resumption of high-level meetings throughout the year. Building on that solid basis, they highlighted the growing convergence in key areas, such as environmental cooperation, energy transition, science, technology and innovation, education, and international peace and security.
4. As countries with a long history of working in favor of global peace and stability, Brazil and Norway reaffirmed their intention to promote dialogue in the search for diplomatic solutions to armed conflicts around the world. They praised their shared commitment to upholding the Charter of the United Nations and enhancing the multilateral system, including by advancing in UN Security Council reform in order to make the primary organ responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security more transparent, accountable, inclusive, and effective.
5. Minister Huitfeldt congratulated the Government of Brazil on its unwavering commitment to protecting the Amazon Forest and the Cerrado savannah, as well as for achieving substantial reductions in deforestation since the beginning of the year. The acting Minister of Foreign Affairs relayed the gratitude of the Brazilian Government for Norway’s continued support for protecting the environment in Brazil, particularly through contributions to the Amazon Fund (US\$1.2 billion). The parties reiterated their commitment to continue the long-standing bilateral climate and forest partnership and to continuing to deepen collaboration in areas related to the combat against climate change, the protection of biodiversity, and the strengthening of sustainable development.
6. The Ministers also concurred on the vital importance of the energy transition as a shared fundamental priority. As key partners in this area, Norway and Brazil agreed to pave the way for enhanced bilateral cooperation in critical areas such as renewable energy and new technologies for the energy transition, including carbon capture and storage (CCS), low-carbon hydrogen, clean alternative maritime fuels, and offshore wind energy.
7. Brazil and Norway reasserted their mutual interest in strengthening collaboration in the field of fisheries. Minister Huitfeldt reinforced the importance of ocean-related issues

for the Norwegian government. The parties decided to examine the possibility of starting discussions to draw up a Memorandum of Understanding for a Norwegian-Brazilian ocean dialogue.

8. On economic and trade issues, the parties recognized the significance of Norwegian investments in Brazil and supported the early conclusion of the negotiations on outstanding issues in the MERCOSUR-EFTA Free Trade Agreement.
9. The Ministers welcomed the long-lasting and constructive bilateral dialogue on global health and agreed to deepen their collaboration in multilateral fora in this crucial area.
10. The Governments of Brazil and Norway identified further areas of common interest that hold great potential for reinforced joint collaboration, such as science, technology and innovation, and education. The Ministers acknowledged that all countries need safe and inclusive digital public infrastructure to advance the agenda of sustainable development. They agreed to scale up collaboration, including examining options for cooperation within the framework of the Digital Public Goods Alliance – recognizing the important role of open-source technologies to help shorten country learning and adoption paths. They recalled that an update of the Memorandum of Understanding on Education is currently under development.
11. The Ministers agreed that Brazil and Norway should hold periodical political consultations to assess the priorities and perspectives of the bilateral relationship, as well as to exchange views on regional and global issues. To date, five meetings of the political consultation mechanism under the 2011 MoU have taken place, the latest in March 2022, in Brasilia. The Ministers reaffirmed the intention to host the sixth meeting in Oslo in the first semester of 2024.